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NEWS RELEASE

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Ministry of Forests
Chief Forester's Office

TREE FARM LICENCE ANNUAL CUT INCREASED

VICTORIA – The allowable annual cut for Tree Farm Licence 8 in B.C.'s south-central Interior will increase by 21 per cent to 175,000 cubic metres, B.C.'s deputy chief forester Ken Baker announced today.

The decision is the first of 34 allowable annual cut determinations for tree farm licences in the third provincewide timber supply review. The timber supply review is a detailed and comprehensive process that ensures harvest rates sustain ecological values like biodiversity and wildlife, as well as maintaining timber, jobs and economic benefits.

"Timber supply projections show that a higher harvest level is appropriate here, in large part because the productivity of second-growth forests is much greater than previously estimated," Baker said. Tree Farm Licence 8, held by Pope & Talbot Ltd., consists of 77,456 hectares of Crown land northwest of Grand Forks, in the Nelson forest region.

The new allowable annual cut takes effect on Dec. 1. If fully harvested and processed, it could support an estimated 170 to 195 person-years of direct employment and generate about $4.6 million in provincial forestry revenues.

The determination reflects the requirements of the Kootenay-Boundary higher level plan, which was recently revised to protect forest sector jobs while maintaining the area's unique wildlife, scenery and old-growth forests.

Tree farm licences are private operations managed for sustained yield under a 25-year licence. The licensee manages the area under the general supervision of the Ministry of Forests and receives approval from the ministry for harvesting activities.

A copy of the deputy chief forester's allowable annual cut determination for TFL 8 is available on the Ministry of Forests Web site at www.for.gov.bc.ca/tsb and at the following Forest Service offices:

- Nelson forest region, 250-354-6200
- Boundary forest district, 250-442-5410

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For more information on the timber supply review, visit www.for.gov.bc.ca/tsb on the Internet.

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Visit the province's Web site at http://www.gov.bc.ca/ for online information and services.

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